

# **5 FAH-1 H-430 ENVELOPES AND MAILING**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

## **5 FAH-1 H-431 GENERAL**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

a. Follow instructions in this section for preparing envelopes and using mail services in the Department and at post. See the *Pouch and Mail Handbook* (5 FAH-10) for detailed guidelines regarding dispatching mail and pouch and mail channels. Contact the central message center/mail room for your organization (see the list in back of the Department Telephone Directory) for additional information.

b. Official unclassified mail originating in the Department and posts must be metered (postage affixed according to weight by postage meters) for processing through the United States Postal Service (USPS) or the Military Postal System (MPO).

c. Envelopes bearing the metered postage must be mailed through the Department's Central Mail Branch (DPM/U).

d. Official metered envelopes mailed at post are routed through the Department for accountability.

e. Envelopes containing classified mail must be properly marked. Complete the proper forms to register classified items (Form OF-112) and pouch mail (Form OF-120). See 5 FAH-1 H-431 Exhibit H-431 for sample forms. See 5 FAH-10 (*Pouch and Mail Handbook*) for complete instructions for sending classified and pouch mail items.

f. Envelopes containing SBU information must be prepared as other "Unclassified" envelopes. SBU packages must be registered on a Form OF-120 with the unclassified marking. See 5 FAH-10 for complete guidelines.

g. Message Centers (Mail rooms) are located throughout the Department. Consult the message center that services your organization for further guidance.

## **5 FAH-1 H-432 TYPES OF ENVELOPES**

### **5 FAH-1 H-432.1 Letter-Size Envelope**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

A letter-size envelope (4 inches) is the approximate size of a folded letter. Use the letter-size envelope for official correspondence whenever possible (fold material, if necessary). See 5 FAH-1 H-432 Exhibit H-432.1.

### **5 FAH-1 H-432.2 Window Envelope**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

Use a window envelope (available only in letter size) for unclassified, routine or administrative mailings. Use also for large informational mailings. The addressee's name and address appears in the window from a letter or label).

### **5 FAH-1 H-432.3 Light Brown Envelope (Kraft)**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

Use Kraft envelopes for unfolded or oversized material, such as multiple enclosures, pamphlets, etc. Kraft envelopes are available in several sizes. They require manual sorting (which may delay delivery) and costs more to purchase and process than a letter-size envelope. See 5 FAH-1 H-432 Exhibit H-432.3.

### **5 FAH-1 H-432.4 U.S. Government Messenger Envelope (Interoffice, Chain-type)**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

Use a messenger envelope to transmit unclassified, interoffice mail within the Department or post. Reuse a messenger envelope by crossing out the last address in a block in the left or right column before turning it over to use the reverse side in the same order. Do not use a messenger envelope to send mail through the regular postal service. See 5 FAH-1 H-432 Exhibit H-432.3.

## **5 FAH-1 H-433 ENVELOPES AT POST**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

a. At post, mail to be dispatched through local or international mail requires host country postage. Clearly indicate to mail room personnel the type of service desired and the nature of the contents.

b. Use a plain white bond envelope for mail to be sent through the host country or international postal facilities. Place the complete post return address which includes name (initial and surname) and office symbol of sender, in the upper left corner of envelope.

## **5 FAH-1 H-434 SELF-ADDRESSED ENCLOSED ENVELOPE**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

a. Use an envelope with postage affixed by a postage meter (or an address label or reply card) preprinted with the Department's address to enclose with a letter to an addressee who is asked to provide information on behalf of the Government, but is not obligated to furnish the information.

b. When replying to a request from the private sector, do not use an enclosed postage stamp or self-addressed stamped envelope supplied by the addressee; reply in an official Department envelope. Return the stamp or envelope to the addressee with the reply.

c. For other information requests from the private sector where an unsigned form letter is used to accompany printed material, an address label sent by the individual or organization may be used on the Department's official envelope.

## **5 FAH-1 H-435 ADDRESSING ENVELOPES**

### **5 FAH-1 H-435.1 Return Address**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

a. For envelopes in the Department show the office symbol, initials and surname of sender, and room number in the upper left corner directly below the printed return address.

b. At post, place the complete geographic location and post identification directly below the words "Official Business."

### **5 FAH-1 H-435.1-1 From Post To Non-Government Addresses**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

Show the complete geographic return address of the post as follows:

Political Section—Room 555  
American Embassy  
London, England

## **5 FAH-1 H-435.1-2 From Post to Department, Another Federal Agency, or Another Post**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

When using the postage paid envelopes, show the office symbol, plus the cable address (e.g., Amembassy London). Example:

(Printed Return Address)  
POL:JRDOE Room 333  
AMEMBASSY London

## **5 FAH-1 H-435.2 Addressee**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

a. Always use the complete address on envelopes. Use block style, single spacing (if three or more lines) and open punctuation. Double-space a two-line address. Indent carryover lines two spaces. Enter the town or city and state on the same line followed by the zip code or foreign country code number. For international mail, place the country name on the last line. If needed, place an "Attention" line in the lower left area of the envelope.

b. For international mail, enter the country in capital letters.

Example:

Mr. John Doe  
345 Morris Road  
London JN2 34P  
ENGLAND

c. Jerusalem is a special situation. Do not designate a country for Jerusalem. Direct specific questions regarding the correct name of a foreign city or country to the Department country desk or the Office of the Geographer (INR/GE).

d. For a local post address, consult the Department of State publication, *Key Officers of Foreign Service Posts*, which list posts alphabetically by country. See also the Department's *Telephone Directory*.

e. Mail addressed to a military post abroad requires AA, AE, or AP numbers with the zip code. The Military Postal Service (MPS) has aligned APO/FPO numbers based on the geographic location. See 5-FAH-10, *Pouch and Mail Handbook*, for specific numbers.

## **5 FAH-1 H-435.3 Zip Codes**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

a. Always include the zip code in the address on mail sent through USPS channels. Use the nine-digit zip code when available. The

Department uses a nine-digit zip code (20520-xxxx) for automated mail sorting, which must appear in the address block of all mail addressed to the Department in Washington, D.C. or at posts.

b. The first five digits of the zip code for the Department must be 20520. The last four digits identify the room number.

c. Use the zip code 20521 for mail addressed to post plus the last four digits to identify the post (see 5 FAH-10, *Pouch and Mail Handbook*). Example:

Mr. John Doe  
AMEMBASSY Ouagadougou  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20521-2440

## **5 FAH-1 H-436 TYPES OF MAIL SERVICE**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

a. The Department provides several types of mail services. Use the USPS for official correspondence to all U.S. addresses. Send official mail through the messenger system for forwarding to the Department's mail room, where it will be entered into the USPS channels. Follow the procedures in 5 FAH-10 (*Pouch and Mail Handbook*) for further guidance.

### **5 FAH-1 H-436.1 Special Mail Services**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

For any of the following special services (not routine correspondence), hand carry the mail to the Central Mail Room (B-528) for processing. See 5 FAH-1 H-436 Exhibit H-436.1 for sample forms to attach to the item when requesting special services.

- (1) Return Receipt—Use for proof of delivery.
- (2) Registered Mail—Use for SBU, Confidential, or Secret mail.
- (3) Certified Mail—Use for mail requiring a record of mailing, delivery, or return receipt.
- (4) Priority Mail—Use for mail and packages by requesting fourth class and special handling service (cost is less for a large package when sent via fourth class).
- (5) Express Mail—Use when mail must be delivered the next day. Maximum weight is 70 pounds. Include Department's control number (request from Bureau or Executive Office) on each piece of express mail. Hand carry mail to the Post Office before 3:15 p.m., Monday through Friday for same day mailing. The types of express mail are:

(a) Post Office to Post Office Service indicates that item can be claimed at the destination facility by 10:00 a.m. the next business day; and

(b) Post Office to Addressee Service means that item will be delivered to the addressee within the delivery area of the destination facility by 3:00 p.m. the next business day.

## **5 FAH-1 H-436.2 Diplomatic Pouch Mail**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

a. The pouch mail system is reserved for international transmission of official U.S. communications between the Department and posts, between posts, and between other Federal agencies and their representatives serving under the jurisdiction of an American diplomatic or consular post. See 5 FAH-10 (*Pouch and Mail Handbook*) for complete pouch and mail procedures.

b. Consult the pouch control officer in the Department or post for questions regarding pouch mail procedures or an up-to-date pouch schedule.

## **5 FAH-1 H-436.3 Messenger Service**

### **5 FAH-1 H-436.3-1 Department Messenger Service**

*(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)*

a. Mail circulating between offices and bureaus may be hand carried (without an envelope) by office personnel or bureau messengers, unless classified or controlled and going out of the building. A Routing and Transmittal Slip (Form OF-41) may be placed on top of mail carried by bureau messengers between offices in the same building.

b. Mail addressed to employees outside of the bureau or in another building is delivered by IM/DPM messengers. Limited messenger service is available for delivery to other Federal agencies in the Washington, D.C. area. Always use an envelope for IM/DPM messenger mail (classified or unclassified). To ensure prompt delivery, include on the envelope the addressee's name, office symbol, room number, and building. For another agency, include agency symbol (e.g., OMB) before office symbol.

c. Request Special Courier Service (automobile) to transport classified material and urgent messages to other Federal agencies within the area. Use official envelopes for classified or administratively controlled (SBU) material (attach Form OF-112; 5 FAH-1 H-431 Exhibit H-431) and messenger envelopes (see 5 FAH-1 H-432 Exhibit H-432.3) for unclassified mail. Hand carry mail for courier service to the Pouch Mail Room and flag it for Courier Service.

d. For Other Agency Pickup Service, bring items directly to the Message Center for fast delivery to other Federal agencies that have daily mail pickups. See 5 FAH-10 for additional domestic internal message service procedures.

### **5 FAH-1 H-436.3-2 Post Messenger Service**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

For post messenger and mail handling services available, consult the Administrative Officer and/or the Information Program Center Personnel at each post (see 5 FAH-10 for general and specific overall pouch and mail procedures).

### **5 FAH-1 H-436.4 Other Mail Channels From Posts**

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

a. Posts provide international mail service, host country postal service, and U.S. Military Postal Service where available (see 5 FAH-10, *Pouch and Mail Handbook*). Use international and local postal facilities for unclassified mail only if approved by the principal officer. Send all classified or administratively controlled (SBU) mail through the Information Program Center for processing through the USPS.

b. Use one of the following special services available through channels from posts:

(1) Airmail—Use airmail to expedite mail when the distance involved requires air transport to speed delivery. Use airmail envelopes or mark the envelope or package "AIRMAIL" to ensure airmail service.

(2) Special Delivery—If available locally, use this service if it is certain that special handling will expedite service.

(3) Registered Mail—Use to register mail according to local requirements, after the service is approved by the principal officer.

### **5 FAH-1 H-437 THROUGH H-439 UNASSIGNED**

# 5 FAH-1 H-431 Exhibit H-431 CLASSIFIED AND CONTROLLED MAIL FORMS

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1973 - 420-424

**DATE SENT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Classified Material Receipt** V 2357953

**FROM:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) (Office Symbol) (Room) (Bldg.)

**TO:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) (Office Symbol) (Room) (Bldg.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Messenger's Signature)

**IDENTIFICATION** \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Form 112  
Rev. 8/79  
State, AID, USICA  
50112-102

THIS PART IS TO BE FILLED IN AND RETAINED  
BY SENDER UNTIL RETURN OF PART IV AND  
ATTACHED THERETO.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Office symbol or Stamp with Date and Hour)

V 2357953

THIS PART TO REMAIN ATTACHED TO PART II  
BUT NOT FIXED TO ENVELOPE  
TO BE SIGNED BY RECIPIENT AND RETURNED BY  
MESSENGER TO CENTRAL MESSENGER UNIT  
RETAINED FOR 3 YEARS

OF-112

Attach to center of  
envelope.

OF-120

Affix this portion to the  
lower left corner of the  
envelope.

<b>DIPLOMATIC POUCH MAIL REGISTRATION</b>		<b>Nº 8978401</b>	
<b>SENDER</b>		<b>DATE OF REGISTRATION</b>	
<b>OFFICE SYMBOL</b>	<b>CLASSIFICATION</b>		
<b>ADDRESSEE</b>			
<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>			
OPTIONAL FORM 120 (Formerly SF-14) January 1975 STATE-AID-USIA 50120-104		Signature	
(To Be Retained by Registering Officer)			
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1985 0 - 468-854			

TO BE AFFIXED TO COVER

CLASSIFICATION

Nº 8978401

**REGISTERED**

Retain this portion in the  
sending office. The  
communications office  
signs, indicating receipt.

**POUCH DISPATCH CONTROL FORM**

**TO:** ☐ Department  
☐ Foreign Post at \_\_\_\_\_

**ORIGINATING OFFICE**

**DATE REQUIRED AT DESTINATION** **SECURITY CLASSIFICATION** **WEIGHT**

**CONTENT (General Description)**

**SHIPMENTS REQUIRING CERTIFICATION**

**CHECK ONE:** ☐ AIR POUCH REQUESTED - OVER 2 POUNDS  
☐ COURIER POUCH REQUESTED - OVER 2 POUNDS

**CERTIFYING OFFICER**

OPTIONAL FORM 280  
(FORMERLY OS-1019)  
MARCH 1975  
DEPT OF STATE

50280-101

GPO : 1984 0 - 430-819

OF-250

Affix this form to  
the lower left corner  
of the envelope.



# 5 FAH-1 H-432 Exhibit H-432.1

## LETTER SIZE-ENVELOPES

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

### Standard Envelope

United States Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

S:AEElizabeth  
Rm. 7226 NS

Ms. Paula Doe  
1976 Easy Street  
Apartment 4-D  
Falling Stream, MD 20007-1000

### Airmail Envelope

United States Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

NEA/DAV:GPOwyne  
Rm. 1172 NS

Mr. Hosni Fuad  
3647 Hayadeet Square  
Apartment 21  
JERUSALEM

# 5 FAH-1 H-432 Exhibit H-432.3 LARGE ENVELOPES

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

## Kraft Envelope

United States Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

Standard Form No. 65-C  
December 1971  
General Services Administration  
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.8

## U.S. Government Messenger Envelope

NAME (OR TITLE) OF ADDRESSEE, AGENCY, ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT, ADDRESS, AND ROOM		NAME (OR TITLE) OF ADDRESSEE, AGENCY, ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT, ADDRESS, AND ROOM	
●	STOP	●	STOP
	STOP		STOP
	STOP		STOP
●	STOP	●	STOP
	STOP		STOP
●	STOP	●	STOP
	STOP		STOP
	STOP		STOP
●	STOP	●	STOP

**USE THIS SIDE FIRST**

Use STOP only when messenger service between Government buildings in Washington, D.C., is required or wherever a STOP system is used. Your mail room has STOP information.

## Messenger Envelope

# 5 FAH-1 H-436 Exhibit H-436.1-1 SPECIAL MAIL FORMS

(TL:CH-2; 05-30-1998)

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL	
NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL	
(See Reverse)	
Sent to	
Street and No.	
P.O. State and ZIP Code	
Postage	\$
Certified Fee	
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt Showing to whom and Date Delivered	
Return Receipt showing to whom Date and Address of Delivery	
TOTAL Postage and Fees	\$
Postmark or Date	

**CERTIFIED**  
**P 690 287 751**

↑

**Certified Receipt**

**REGISTERED MAIL**  
**R 233 560 391**

↑

**Registered Label**


RETURN RECEIPT, REQUESTED, RETURNED AND CERTIFIED MAIL	<b>SENDER</b> Complete Items 1, 2, and 3. Add your address in the "RETURN TO" space on reverse.
	<b>1. The follow service is requested (check one)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Show to whom and date delivered <input type="checkbox"/> Show to whom, date and address of delivery <input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED DELIVERY Show to whom and date delivered <input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED DELIVERY Show to whom, date, and address of delivery (CONSULT POSTMASTER FOR FEES)
	<b>2. ARTICLE ADDRESSED TO:</b>
	<b>3. ARTICLE DESCRIPTION:</b> (Always obtain signature of addressee or agent) I have received the article described above. SIGNATURE <input type="checkbox"/> Addressee <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized Agent
	<b>4. DATE OF DELIVERY</b>
	<b>5. ADDRESS (Complete only if requested)</b>
<b>6. UNABLE TO DELIVER BECAUSE:</b>	<b>CLERK'S INITIALS</b>

Return Receipt

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	
<b>SENDER INSTRUCTIONS</b> Print your name, address, and ZIP Code in the space below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Items 1, 2, and 3 on the reverse</li> <li>• Attach to front of article (if space permits, otherwise affix to back of article)</li> <li>• Endorse article "Return Receipt Requested" adjacent to number.</li> </ul>	
RETURN TO ↓	
(Name of Sender)	
(Street or P.O. Box)	
(City, State, and ZIP Code)	

ADHESIVE REMOVE TO EXPOSE ADHESIVE REM  
 EXPOSE ADHESIVE REMOVE TO EXPOSE ADHESIVE  
 ADHESIVE REMOVE TO EXPOSE ADHESIVE REM  
 EXPOSE ADHESIVE REMOVE TO EXPOSE ADHESIVE

ADHESIVE REMOVE TO EXPOSE ADHESIVE REM  
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 EXPOSE ADHESIVE REMOVE TO EXPOSE ADHESIVE



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE  
 USE TO AVOID PAYMENT  
 OF POSTAGE \$300

